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THE new art rooms lately opened by Geo. M. Allen & Co., 94 Fifth Avenue, New York, are very attractive. They are filled with "originals" from studies by the most celebrated artists, arranged in the most artistic manner. The draperies and accessories of the picture gallery are arranged in such a way as to show each painting to the best advantage. Yellow and brown give tone to the room; rattan and bamboo furniture, Eastern rugs and hangings supplement the daintiness of the paintings, making a whole of wondrous beauty.

The process by which these pictures are made is entirely new and original with this firm. The colors used are Windsor and Newton's water colors, and not printing or lithographic inks. By this process a painting, costing two hundred dollars, may be reproduced so as to defy even an expert to tell the copy from the first painting, at a cost of twenty-five dollars, thereby bringing good pictures within the reach of the "middle million."

Each picture is matted and framed in the best possible manner; the strong central color is an emphatic point of painting, being carried out in the frame; for instance, Aubert's Cupid, in browns, is encircled by a frame of brown fleecy clouds. Lithographs, photogravures, and etchings have, in many cases, Rococo frames, while chintz, silk and cloth of gold are used freely for framing.

Among the art novelties are found blot- ters, calendars in every conceivable shape and style of decoration, with an almost endless variety of Christmas and menu cards.

The first of the year will see upon the market several new books, published by this house. There will be a book of selections, by H. W. McVicar, illustrated in his usual style. A humorous translation from the German "Picnic of the Harmony Club," with over forty illustrations, made from pencil drawings by Allers, and a volume of verses, "Songs of Spring," written by Mr. Frank Chaffee, illustrated by McIlvaine, with photogravures and half tones.

MR. WILLIAM CAMPBELL, who died at his residence, No. 32 Clifton Place, Brooklyn, on Friday, November 20th, was probably the original manufacturer of the present style of Spring Shade Rollers. Mr. Campbell was 58 years of age.

He established the Shade Roller business at Sixth Avenue and 32d Street, New York, in 1859. In 1864, he secured the patent for a self-acting spring Shade Roller. A few months prior to the issue of the very similar patent to Stewart Hartshorn. The fact that the two rollers were invented about the same time lead to continual controversy and litigation. Finally, in 1870, when various parties began to infringe on both the Campbell and Hartshorn patents, an understanding was arrived at between Mr. Campbell and Mr. Hartshorn whereby the latter secured control of Mr. Campbell's patents with the understanding that he should protect their united inventions in the courts. From Sixth Avenue, Mr. Campbell removed his business first to Barrow Street, and then to Spring Street, and later to West Broadway, and finally, in 1878, to No. 239 Centre Street, in a building which was erected under his personal supervision, and built expressly for his own use. Mr. Campbell carried on his business in a quiet and unostentatious manner, and only those whose privilege it was to enjoy his acquaintance, and to be thrown into intimate business relations with him, were competent really to appreciate at its full the many manly and honorable traits of character which Mr. Campbell possessed to a remarkable degree.

It was always his wish to avoid controversy, and in all of his business relations he was scrupulously honest and honorable, being always quite as anxious that other people should have their rights to the full, as that he should secure his own. He was a man who preferred the satisfaction of his own consciousness of entire business fairness and probity, to the reputation for smartness in business. To those who knew him best, a simple promise was always all that was required in any business matter, and all his dealings were entirely straightforward and upright. His example, as a business man, in these days of sharp competition and smart business transactions, was entirely healthy and beneficent, and it is with satisfaction that we are able to chronicle the fact that his business methods were crowned with success, and that he was able to retire in 1883 from active business with a competency. Mr. Campbell had always lived in Brooklyn, where he was a member of the Hyatt Lodge F. and A. M., and also of De Witt Commandery, Knights Templars.

THE ROBERT GRAVES COMPANY.

THESE well known manufacturers of fine wall papers have issued an illustrated catalogue for the season of 1890-91 in which there are 19 plates of new side wall and ceiling decorations made by them for the coming season. Many of the plates exhibit all the colors of the wall papers themselves, while others are simply in two colors intended to show the characteristic features of the design.

The wall paper trade ought to congratulate itself on having within reach so many beautiful and original conceptions, and the firm have come round to the idea that the introduction of their new styles and combinations could be brought about more satisfactorily by the use of colored illustrations, which are calculated to educate the public at large in matters of decoration and harmony of color. Of course the illustrations cover but a small portion of the new styles brought out by the firm, but they are sufficient in number to prove the quality of the Graves Company's output for the present and coming season. We may here mention that the designs exhibited in the catalogue are not made in the cheap grades of goods, which renders them more valuable to the dealer than those of manufacturers who print the same styles in white blanks and gold papers, thereby unquestionably deteriorating the value of the latter.

An examination of the various styles proves that the manufacturers this season, when not producing strictly floral effects, are prone on the slightest provocation to rush into Empire and Colonial styles, which are of course, the rage in decoration at present. Many of the patterns reproduce the brocaded stripe patterns that were so much in vogue in the eighteenth century.

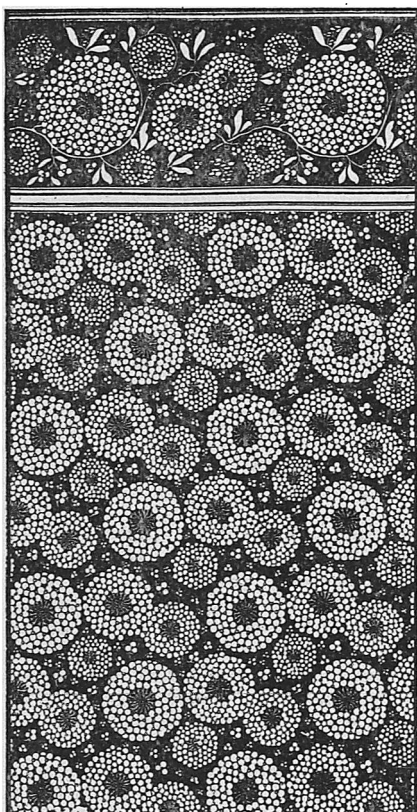
Plate No. 5 in the catalogue contains suggestions for boudoirs and chambers in powdered stripe hangings on damask grounds which are in every way charming and appropriate. We notice that panel decorations both for ceilings and side walls are coming one more into popular favor. Large unbroken surfaces of wall become wearisome to the eye and to relieve this panel decorations were originally designed.

As has been the custom of the firm for some years passed, they have again this year prepared to a decided novelty

in the way of side wall panel decoration, which is illustrated on plate 13, and is an adaptation of the daisy pattern. The various methods of treating it are fully shown, and certainly the effect reaches the highest point of artistic elegance for interior decoration.

The sale of their canopy designs for the ceiling have been very extensive, and there are pen and ink diagrams of same, as well as diagrams of their Indo-Byzantine side wall decorations.

Plate No. 8 contains three original designs of special merit, the first being a treatment of apples, the second a free treatment of the Catifolia motive and the third a conventional treatment of the Hydrangea. These three designs are produced in all the brilliancy of color which characterizes the papers them-



WALL-PAPER DESIGN, BY THE ROBERT GRAVES CO.

selves. The firm continue to make an admirable line of damasks and in the raised flock, leather and hand goods the new patterns possess exceptional merit.

Owing to the rapid growth of the country, as well as the closing up of some of the largest wall paper factories since the pool was broken up, the factories at present in operation are having a larger out-put at present than in any former year of their existence.

The Robert Graves Company in erecting what is, perhaps, the largest factory in the trade, about a year ago, in South Brooklyn, have proved that their foresight as to the demands of the trade was a correct one. The capacity of their immense factory was severely taxed last season, and to provide for the still greater demands of the coming year they have added to their machinery sufficiently to enable them to fill all orders promptly.

THOMAS STRAHAN & COMPANY.

MR. H. A. NEILSON of the firm of Thomas Strahan & Company, manufacturers of fine wall-paper and decorative specialties, of Chelsea, Mass., realizing the necessity and value of giving personal attention to their trade in the New York market, has opened a New York office at No. 16 East 23 Street.

The wall-papers manufactured by this enterprising concern are already well known to decorators. We might mention that they are showing this season a new and varied line of 22 & 30 inch papers, with friezes to match, which seem to us the *ne plus ultra* of wall-paper decoration. They make a strong line of flats, in which the most soft and delicate of color effects are produced—indeed many papers are marvels of the paper-staining art. Similiar patterns are produced, some in mica and others on blended grounds. In these, atmospheric effects are produced that given depth and brilliancy to the patterns. A fine motive consists of the blue bells of Scotland, which in pink on a white ground is certainly a magnificent paper. The style of the greater part of the designs is what might be called Italian Renaissance, the floral motives ranging away from mere stencil patterns to very close imitations of nature. Their goods are largely machine made, but the brilliancy of coloring employed, and the very great artistic skill shown in the designs make them superior to a great many hand made goods of other manufacturers.

The design of the firm seems to be to give hand-made effects at machine-made prices, and their idea is one that will be appreciated by decorators.

A new and magnificent motive is the African jungle plant, called by them their "Stanley" design. The treatment is really splendid in its proportions, and the colorings the most suave and delicate we have seen for a long time. There is a wide range of Colonial patterns which seem to be the rage just now, and these on metallic grounds are refined and charming. They produce a new canvas embossing in imitation of linen duck, and the solid gold so embossed gives a new and artistic expression both to eye and hand. The beautiful Baroness de Rothschild rose pattern deserves special mention. The American rhododendron is shown in a variety of æsthetic combinations. The poppy motive comes again to the front in green and vermilion effects, that are absolutely startling in contrast with their many other soft-toned papers. Every conceivable combination of color effects seem to have been discovered and executed in the Strahan papers. There are Watteau effects on ashes-of-roses grounds, cream effects on slate-colored grounds and there is no end to the splendor of maroon, olive and yellow effects.

A real novelty has been put on the market by this firm. It consists of printed real silk hangings. The silk is first of all prepared for hanging by being backed with paper, and is then printed with the design right upon the naked silk surface. This is a most desirable innovation, and one that will attract great attention from people who are anxious to have their walls covered with a silk brocade, but are not

able to afford the cost of same. This intermediate link between paper and silk is worthy the attention of live decorators who are anxious to introduce a new artistic effect at a low cost. Their "Pulp & Fibre" papers are already too well known and appreciated, to need further mention. We cordially recommend our readers to give Mr. Neilson a call at his office on 23rd Street.

EXCELLENT GRAINING.

SEVERAL years ago the writer entered one of the big office buildings, which fill nearly an entire block, in the business centre of New York City, and after transacting some business with a prominent shipping firm on the second floor went up in the elevator to the seventh floor, where an agent for a patent paint for iron ship bottoms kept an office.

Passing through the hall, it struck him that in this, the seventh floor, as well as in the lower part of the building, all raised panels on doors, frames, wainscoting, etc., seemed to be made of very fine Hungarian ash, or veneered with that wood.

Reading about the Transfer Graining paper and after trying a sample he found it very easy to imitate the natural grain in woods so well that a close inspection was necessary to decide whether such specimens are not real wood or the product of handwork. When again visiting the above mentioned building, he found on examination that the woodwork therein had been grained with this Transfer paper. Some smart painter had found a good thing and kept the knowledge for himself. This paper has been used in the N. S. by very few grainers and in two or three factories since eight years. It is a wonder that the knowledge and use of the same has not spread all over the country long ago, as it has done in all the European countries; for this graining paper is the handiest thing for the inexperienced decorator or painter, and the best help, as an excellent grainer, who has followed this special business for 30 years, declared. This paper provides the grainer with the best under work, which he improves by shading to such a finish that scraping off is the only thing that will prove whether the work is natural wood or imitation. The use of it is so simple that there is no need for experimenting or learning to make good work, all that is necessary is just to wet an appropriate piece of the paper on the blank unprinted side and as soon as it is soaked through and the color on the other side is glossy to lay it smoothly on the properly tinted dry ground color, and brush over the back. After removing the paper from which four successive copies can be taken, blend with a bristle blender or common duster; this will bring out the grain and in a few minutes it will be dry for varnishing glazing or shading of such woods as walnut, mahogany, rosewood, etc., which will bring out the natural beauty of these woods.

The low price 40c. for rolls 26 feet long or 12c. a sheet induces experimenting with it as its use saves both time and labor. For further information and for samples, etc., the reader is referred to A. Wiggers, Mgr., The Stencil Company of New York, 215 East 59th Street, New York.

WOOD PULP VENEERS.

LBRELL of Frohuleiten has prepared by an ingenious method, a wood pulp to be used as veneers such as are employed by cabinet makers for the covering and finishing of soft wood furniture. He has patented the method of preparation and named the product Wood Pulp Veneer. We are in possession of several specimens of soft wood which are covered with this pulp and have exactly the appearance and properties of well veneered wood. The inventor writes us that it has been tried by an experienced cabinet maker and is very well adapted for black and old German furniture; it can also be utilized, as the sample shows, for graining and as it does not split and expands equally in all directions. The method of producing is similar to that used in making pulps in general.

In the sample before us the wood pulp veneers can only be distinguished from the genuine wood veneers by the cross sections. The surfaces are smooth, and in our estimation the material is well adapted for covering flat spaces, such as door and chest panels. We do not doubt, however, that obtuse angles and round concave mouldings can also be covered with it. If it should turn out that wood veneers can really be replaced by it, the invention has a not unimportant future, since the veneer pulp can be produced at a much lower cost than the veneers which are cut from the most expensive woods.

The inventor is desirous of selling his patent, and will cheerfully give information to any one interested. The present condition of the pulp industries are not unfavorably to the production of special articles.

MR. OTIS WATTLES.

IF there is one thing that the modern educated young man or young woman wishes more than another, it is that he, or she, might possess a photograph camera. The invention of photography has given a new charm to life and an additional reason why it is worth living. How often in our rambles in the country, or in our walks in the city, have we not wished to have had the means of accurately recording the precise features of a scene in nature or human life that charmed us, but which has vanished never more to be seen again. Our memory recalls a thousand charming scenes the eye has beheld, but how dim, and vague, and useless are the pictures on the tablets of memory, compared with those that may be limned by the camera, with the actual reflections of light and shade from the object itself.

These and a thousand other considerations point to the fact that if you would make your friend a present that would give him or her the liveliest satisfaction, you cannot do better than purchase a photograph camera. There is the portable camera, that stands upon its tripod, which, thanks to the existence of dry-plates, is available for making pictures in any situation. There is also the world famed "Kodak," which has been founded upon the motto "You press the button and we do the rest," a wonderful little instrument, and a model triumph of the ingenuity of the

human mind in matters relating to photography.

Having discovered the most pleasurable form of scientific and artistic recreation, it only remains for us to find the best place wherein to purchase the apparatus. If there is one place more than another where all the different kinds of cameras can be examined and tested, and where prices are lowest; that place is the store belonging to Mr. Otis Wattles in the building of Messrs. Gall & Lembke, No. 13 Union Square, New York. There is this advantage in dealing with Mr. Wattles, that he makes a specialty of coaching amateurs in the actual work of taking successful photographs. He is at all times willing to give time and advice, free of charge to his customers, and a lady, or gentleman, entirely ignorant of the subject of photography can learn more from Mr. Wattles in fifteen minutes, than by spending a week in reading the various handbooks that are composed for the purpose of explaining how to become a successful photographer. "I take pride" says Mr. Wattles, "in making every amateur understand clearly the principles of photography, and it gives me a sincere pleasure to see them become successful photographers." The result of such liberality has been to give Mr. Otis Wattles an exceptionally large business, for his customers know that in buying a camera at his store they are also absolutely certain of knowing how to use it, an advantage not to be obtained from any other dealer in photographic apparatus.

FREDERICK BECK & CO.

THE output of new papers by this well known firm fully sustain its reputation as manufacturers of wall papers of the highest quality. Their range of hand printed goods contains many charming novelties, which are sure to be highly appreciated, both by the dealer and the general public.

There is a line of raised papers where in the pattern is both raised and outlined with embossing, which runs through all colors both in contrasting and self tints. The designs are chiefly floral patterns, and we mention in particular a pansy motive, wherein clusters of raised flowers in their natural colors are very realistically produced. Another prominent device is the hydrangea, which forms a heavy mosaic of raised, multicolored petals on beautifully contrasting grounds. The stems and leaves are in gold relief.

Their choice brocade patterns are produced in all bronze colors, many of the patterns being pressed in low relief. In all these wall papers some are printed in flat tints, others are gilt, and quite a number possess a satin mica finish that is extremely attractive.

There is a new line of metalized patent relief papers. These papers more nearly resemble illuminated leather papers, but are a special manufacture of the firm. Nothing could exceed the extraordinary richness and diversification of the designs presented which are emblazoned and burnished with every possible tint.

In their canvas hangings many new patterns are exhibited and another novel feature of the present seasons goods is the manufacture of paper hangings with a

rough canvas embossing in imitation of of the real textile fabric. When the two hangings are placed side by side it is impossible, at a little distance, to distinguish between the paper and the woven hemp.

Another beautiful idea consists in producing a line of choice flat tints, each motive being illustrated with a blending of bronzed tints, which produce a charming paper.

In hand gilts there are beautiful Arabian patterns with bewildering involutions of motive and colors. There is a book filled with Empire friezes, another of gold mosaics, and another with tapestry effects. In gilts, one of the most charming ideas we have ever seen is the production of a gold diaper pattern on a ground on which is printed large floral motives in brilliant flat tints. One of these motives is a detached repeat of the Japanese lily; another is a bouquet of roses, etc. The honeysuckle, in detached powderings, is printed in cream on a drab mica ground. The frieze to match is similarly produced with the addition of a bright salmon colored classic wreaths, outlined in gold. The effect is extremely charming.

The most original line of all consists of a line of raised papers denominated "Silk Hangings." The peculiarity in these papers is that in the embossing a web of real silk gauze is pressed into the substance of the paper, and its appearance on the surface produces a charming and novel effect. By this method the designs look like lace work, and are tinted and decorated in every conceivable color.

NEW BOOKS.

THE SCHOOL AND FAMILY ATLAS OF THE WORLD. By James Monteith is one of the latest publications of A. S. Barnes & Company of New York and Chicago. This Atlas is descriptive, historical and statistical, and in addition to its maps is illustrated with a great number of fine engravings, illustrating the scenery, cities, public buildings, produce and various industries of the United States. Some of the maps are drawn in relief shading, showing the physiography of the country as a whole. The individual maps are carefully drawn and beautifully colored, the boundary of each country and state being clearly exhibited. Not only are the various states of the Union illustrated but the remaining portions of the world are thus graphically portrayed. There are transcontinental views of Europe, Asia, Africa and America. All the important towns are shown, together with the islands, mountains and rivers. In fact, we do not know of any publication that possesses an equal amount of interest to the square inch as a work of this kind, for geography is one of the most fascinating of studies. The letterpress, while necessarily condensed, gives a graphic account of the history, physiography and commercial importance of every country.

To the work is added a series of topical reviews for study, examination and reference. We have no hesitation in pronouncing it the finest school atlas we have yet seen. It is bound in cloth with morocco back, and would form a fine gift for a school boy.

THE HISTORY OF ART. For Art Students, and Tourists in Europe. By William Henry Goodyear, late curator of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This is another of A. S. Barnes & Company's new publications. It is second edition, which has been revised and enriched by fresh illustrations of the famous sculptures of antiquity, as well as numerous pictures and frescoes by the most famous artists which are reproduced by fine engravings, printed in almost every color, the beautiful tints giving additional interest to the subject of the pictures. There